PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

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Members of the public are requested to make a free present of any suitable old Tamil books they can spare for the perusal, in their leisure time, of our soldiers outside India.

Books so given will be handed over to the Superintendent of the State Press, who will arrange to despatch them.

LECTURE CLXII.

MR. CHURCHILL'S QUEBEC BROADCAST.

THE SECOND FRONT.

We have heard a lot of talk in the last two years about establishing, what is called a Second Front in Western France against Germany. Anyone can see how desirable that immense operation of war would be. It is quite natural that the Russians, bearing the main and worst weight of the German Armies on their front, should urge us ceaselessly to undertake this task, and should in no way conceal their complaints, and even reproaches, that we have not done it before. I do not blame them at all for what they say.

They have tried so well, and they have inflicted such enormous injury upon the military strength of Germany, that there is nothing they could say in honest criticism of our strategy, or the part we have so far been able to take in the war, which could be taken amiss by us, or weaken our admiration, for their own martial prowess and achievements.

But it is easier to have a front pulled down than it is to build it up again. We once had a fine front in France. It was torn to pieces.

I look forward to the day when British and American liberating armies will cross the Channel in full force, and come to close quarters with the German invaders of France. You would certainly not wish me to tell you when that is likely to happen, or whether it will be near or far, but whenever the great blow is struck, you may be sure that it will be because we are satisfied that there is good prospect of continuing success, and that our soldiers' lives are expended in accordance with sound military plans, and not squandered for political considerations of any kind.

ALLIED STRATEGY.

I submit to the judgment of the United Nations and history that British and American strategy, as directed by our combined Chiefs of Staff and as approved and to some extent inspired by the President and myself, has been the best that was open to us in a practical sense. It has been bold and daring, and has brought into play against the enemy the maximum effective forces that could have been deployed up to the present by Great Britain and the United States, having regard to the limitation of ocean transport, to the peculiar conditions of amphibious warfare and to the character and training of the armies we possess, which have largely been called into being since the beginning of the war. Personally, I always think of a Third Front as well as a Second Front. I always think that the Western Democracies should be like a boxer who fights with two hands and not one. I believe that the great flanking movement into N. Africa made under the authority of President Roosevelt and H. M.'s Govt. for whom I am the principal agent, will be regarded in after time as quite a good thing which yielded substantial results.

Africa is cleared. All German and Italian Armies in Africa have been annihilated, and at least half a million prisoners are in our hands. In a brilliant campaign of 38 days Sicily which was defended by over 400,000 Axis troops has been conquered. Mussolini has been overthrown.

THAT UNHAPPY ITALY.

The war impulse of Italy has been destroyed and that unhappy country is paying a terrible penalty for allowing itself to be misled by false and criminal guides. How much easier it is to join with bad companions than to shake them off. A large number of German troops has lately been drawn away from France in order to hold down the Italian people, in order to make Italy the battleground, and to keep the war at a distance, and so long as possible away from German soil.

By far the greater part of the German Air Force has been drawn off the Russian Front, and is being engaged and worn down with ever growing intensity night and day by British U. S. and Canadian airmen.

More than all this, we have established a strategic initiative and potential, both in the Atlantic and from the Mediterranean, of which the enemy can neither measure the weight nor foresee the hour of application.

Both in the Mediterranean and in our air assaults on Germany, the war has prospered, and this diminution of Hitler's war-making capacity has been achieved by air bombardment and, of course, that bombardment will steadily increase in volume and in accuracy as each successive month passes by.

I readily admit that much of all this would have been impossible in this form, or at this time, but for the valiant and the magnificent exertions and triumphs of the Russian Armies, who have defended their native soil against a vile and unprovoked attack with incomparable vigour—yes, and devotion—and at a terrible price in Russian blood.

No Government ever formed among men has been capable of surviving injuries so grave and cruel as those inflicted by Hitler on Russia. But under the leadership of Marshal Stalin, and thanks also to the stand made by the British peoples when they were all alone, and to the abundant British and American supplies and munitions of all kinds, Russia has not only survived and recovered from these frightful injuries but has inflicted, as no other force in the world could have inflicted, mortal damage on the German Army machine.

THE BALKAN SCENE.

Most important and significant events are taking place in the Balkans as a result of the Russian victories, and also I believe, of the Anglo-American campaign against Italy. Twice in the last 30 years the Bulgarian people, who owed their liberation and existence to Russia, have been betrayed against their interests and to a large extent against their wishes, and driven by evil Rulers into disaster.

The fate of King Boris may serve other miscreants with a reminder that the wages of sin is death.

And this is also the time to remember the resistance to the invaders of their native land made by the peoples of Yugoslavia and of Greece, and those who Mr. Gladstone once called the heroic highlanders of Montenegro.

All the Balkans is ablaze, and the impending collapse of Italy as a war factor will not only remove from the scene the most numerous of their opponents, but will also bring hope and help nearer to those unconquerable races.

I look forward with confidence to the day when Yugoslavia and Greece will once again be free—free to live their own lives and decide their own destiny. I take this opportunity to send a message of encouragement to these people and their Governments, and to the Kings of Greece and Yugoslavia who have never faltered for one moment in their duty, and whom we hope to see restored to their Thrones by the free choice of their liberated peoples.

Let us then all go forward together, making the best of curselves and the best of one another, resolved to apply the maximum forces at our command without regard to any other single thought but attack and destruction on those monstrous and evil dominations which have so nearly cost each and all of us our national lives and mankind its future.

THE RISING TIDE.

I have been asked several times since I crossed the Atlantic whether I think the Germans will give in this year or whether they will hold out to another, which will certainly be worse for them. There are those who take an over-sanguine view. Certainly, we see all Europe rising under Hitler's tyranny. What is now happening in Denmark is only another example.

Certainly, we see the Germans hated as no other race has ever been hated in human history, or with such good reason. We see them sprawled over a dozen once free and happy countries, with their talons making festering wounds, the scars of which will never be effaced.

Nazi tyranny and Prussian militarism—those two loathsome dominations—may well foresee and dread their approaching doom.

We cannot measure the full force of the blows which the Russian Armies are striking, and are going to strike: we cannot measure—though we know it is enormous—the havoc wrought in Germany by our bombing, nor the effects upon the population who have lived so long by making wars in the lands of others. And now, for the first time for more than a century, they are having a blasting and devastating war brought to their hearths and homes. We cannot yet measure what further results may attend the Anglo-American campaign in the Mediterranean, nor the decline and marked failure for the first time of the U-boat warfare on which the Germans' hopes were set, nor the consequences which the shattering blows which are being struck may engender in the German mind. We pass here into a sphere of mass psychology, never more potent than in this modern age.

VAIN SPECULATION.

Yet I consider that there are dangers in allowing our minds to dwell unduly upon the favourable circumstances which surround us, and which are so vividly and punctually brought to our notice every day by the Press and Radio. For myself I regard all such speculations at this moment as to when the war will end as vain and unprofitable. We did not undertake this task because we had carefully counted the cost or measured exactly the duration.

We took it on because dnty and honour called us to it and we are content to strive on at it until we have finished the job.

If Almighty God in His Mercy should lighten or shorten our labours and the torment of mankind all His servants will be thankful, but the United Nations feel conscious, both as States and as hundreds of millions of individuals, of having been called to a high duty which they will unflinchly and untiringly discharge with whatever strength is granted to them, however long the ordeal may last.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

28—8—43 to 3—9—43.

Italy.—The air war over ITALY continues, concentrated principally on rail and road communications. All the main railway lines in South ITALY and the lines to NAPLES, SULMONE and FOGGIA have been cut. The air-fields at FOGGIA, a key point in the communications, had a heavy raid on August 25, in which 147 enemy aircraft were destroyed. The railway targets of the week were at CANCALLO, AVERSA, TERNI, LAMIZIA, CATRO, TORRE, ANNUNZIATA, LA MEZIA, COSENZA, REGGIO, SAN GIOVANNI; ORTE, VITERBO and VECCHIA, near ROME, BARI on the Adriatic; TARANTO; and COTRONE (CALABRIA).

A British cruiser and destroyer bombarded an enemy battery near CAPE PELLARO in the 'toe' of ITALY.

The invasion of ITALY has begun. On September 3 British forces landed on the 'toe'.

Russia.—The Russian summer offensive is in full swing in several sectors and on several fronts. In the *Kharkov Sector* the Red Army has taken LYUBOTIN and moved a hundred miles west beyond LEBEDIN and ZENKOV. In the *Donetz Basin* the Germans have been ousted from important positions east of STALINO. SUMY, the great rail and road centre N. W. of KHARKOV, has fallen.

In the *Bryansk Sector* BRYANSK itself is threatened.

On Sunday August 25 *Taganrog* fell, exposing the whole of the ROSTOV region and compromising the right flank of the German Army. The Russian pressure on the Muis at the mouth of which lies TAGANROG continues, the threat to STALINO and the drive on POLTAVA have forced the Germans to withdraw. Their positions in the DONETZ Basin, the CRIMEA and the KUBAN are involved.

On the *Smolensk Front* YELNIA has fallen, and the Red Army is within 45 miles of SMOLENSK itself.

A Russian Order of the Day announces that the Red Army has entered North UKRAINE occupying the towns of GLUKHOV and RYLSK in the SEVSK area on the *Kursk Front.*

Air Raids over occupied Europe and Germany.—On August 25 BERLIN had a big raid in which the Siemens factories were hit, the CHARLOTTENBURG railway station was wiped out and the Reich's Chancellery, Hitler's headquarters, were damaged. Offices, shops and factories have been closed. BERLIN looks like a dead city.

On August 27, NUREMBERG, a railway centre was attacked.

The targets of August 30 were the industrial area of MUNCHEN—GLADBACH—RHEVDT in the RHINELAND, the air-field at VENDEVILLE, the chemical works and power stations at MAZINGARBE, SAINT POL area and BRYAS air-field, the last three being in FRANCE.

The Pacific.—100 Allied aircraft raided Hansa Bay, dropping 180 tons of bombs. Large fires were started, a freighter was sunk and 45 barges were destroyed or damaged.

Sharp fighting is going on at SALAMAUA, where all Japanese counter-attacks have been repulsed. 20 barges were destroyed at LAE, and 2 ships and 31 barges were sunk between WEWAK and MADANG. WEWAK itself was attacked and 37 enemy aircraft were destroyed. DILLI, (Portuguese TIMOR) had a raid which started fires visible for 45 miles round. MADANG was attacked and 20 barges were sunk.

American forces landed unopposed on ARUNDEL Island in the SOLOMONS.

On August 25 American aircraft and naval vessels attacked MARCUS Island, 1,200 miles S. E. of TOKYO and 900 miles N. W. of WAKE island. The island is an important Japanese outpost in the Central Pacific.

China.—Allied aircraft raided HANKOW, CANTON and HONGKONG causing extensive damage.

Chinese troops have broken into FUYANG, TEPTSING and HONGCHOW.

The Japanese have started a new drive in Western YUNNAN and raided KINHWA, capital of the 'Bomb Tokyo' province.

Japanese barges carrying salt on the Grand Canal were ambushed.

Burma.—The following is a list of targets for the week:—River craft on the Irrawaddy, the Chindwin and the Kaladan; BAGUNA, KANBALU, THITYABIN, YAMETHIN, THAYETMYO, AKYAB, TAUNGUP, THAZI, MYITKYINE, KYANKPYU, RAMRUK Island., KYAUNGIN and BUTHIDAUNG.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

23—8—43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Railway yards at ST. OMER.

Sweeps over the BETHUNE area (1 enemy plane shot down).

Enemy escort vessels off the Dutch coast.

NIGHT:—(59 Allied planes missing).

BERLIN (Capital of Germany) (Heaviest raid yet on Berlin).

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Communications and roads in Southern ITALY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at LANGGOER (Kai Islands).

Enemy villages at **KELSEER** and **DOELA, LARAT, ADODO, SELARU, MITAK, MANGLOSSI, WATMOARI** and **LAMBOESSBARAT** (Tanimbar Group).

Air-field and town of KENDARI (Dutch Celebes).

A freight transport west of CAPE MAATANLEM (New Hanover).

Air-field and dump areas at GASMATA (N. Britain).

FINSCHHAFEN, MARWASI, SELAMATA and **ROOKE Island** areas (N. Guinea).

BURMA.

HTINDAW.

Targets at SANDOWAY.

Enemy communications in various parts of BURMA.

24—8—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Aircraft assembly plant at BORDEAUX (France).

Enemy air-fields at VILLA COUBLEY, CONCHES and EUREUX FAUVILLE.

NIGHT:—

Three air-fields in FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Marshalling yards at CROTONE.
Road and rail communications in Southern ITALY
RUSSIA.
(98 enemy planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
FAR EAST.
The air-field at WEWAK.
BAIROKO harbour (N. Georgia).
HANKOW area (China) (19 Jap planes shot down).
BURMA.
Supply sampans along the IRRAWADDY and the lower CHINDWIN.
River craft near THAZI.
Supply depot at BAGUNA.
Railway tracks and other railway targets at KANBALU, THITYABINI, YAMETHIN.

25—8—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
NIGHT :—
Targets in BERLIN (Capital of Germany).
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Enemy air-fields at FOGGIA (19 enemy planes shot down).
Enemy motor transport in Southern ITALY.
Railway yards at TARANTO (Italy).
Marshalling yards at FOGGIA (Italy).
RUSSIA
(38 Axis planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
FAR EAST.
Jap position and the air-field at SALAMAUA (N. Guinea).
BURMA.
TAUNGUP area.
Villages on the AKYAB Island.

26—8—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
DAY :—
The air-field at CAEN.
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE (2 enemy planes destroyed).
EVENING :—
Electric transformer station at GUERLEDAN (Brittany).
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
The air-field at CAPU (near Naples).
Two air-fields at GRAZZANISE (15 planes shot down).
Targets in the CARLO FORTE and GUSPINI areas (Sardinia).
Road and rail communications in Southern ITALY.
Railway yards at BAGNOLIA (Italy).
German positions in the REGGIO area.
RUSSIA.
(61 enemy planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
FAR EAST.
Jap targets in HANSA BAY (N. Guinea).
BAIROKO harbour (N. Georgia).
BURMA.
Rivercraft between PROME and MAGWE along the IRRAWADDY.
Factory buildings near THAYETMYO.
Sampans between AKYAB and GWA BAY.

27—8—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
DAY :—
The enemy air-field at POIX.
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.
Air combats over the occupied COUNTRIES. (18 enemy planes shot down; 12 Allied planes missing).
NIGHT :—
Railway and industrial centre of NUREMBURG (Germany).
Military objectives in the RUHR.
Railway targets and enemy air-fields in FRANCE and the LOW COUNTRIES (33 Allied planes missing).
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Railway yards at SULMONA, BENEVENTO and CASERTO (all in Italy) (20 Axis planes shot down).
Road and rail communications in Southern ITALY.
Gun positions at REGGIO.
Marshalling yards at SALERNO.
RUSSIA.
(75 Axis planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
Railway junctions of POLTAUA, VOLNOVAKHA and ROSLAVI.
FAR EAST.
The air-field at VILA (Kolombangara).
BAIROKO harbour (N. Georgia).
The TIENHO air-field at CANTON (China).
Docks and shipping at HONGKONG (China).
BURMA.
Rail installations at THAZI.
Rivercraft on the IRRAWADDY.

28—8—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
DAY :—
Canal and railway traffic in BELGIUM and FRANCE.
Air combats over occupied COUNTRIES (2 Axis planes shot down).
NIGHT: —
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
(28 enemy planes shot down).
Railway yards at CANCELLO and AVERSA (Italy).
Railway yards at TERNI.
Railway communications at LAMEZIA.
Railway targets in Southern ITALY.
Wireless installations on UENTOLENE Island.
Sweep over SARDINIA.
Shipping at TARANTO (Italy).
RUSSIA.
(82 enemy planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
FAR EAST.
(14 Jap planes shot down).
The air-field at VILA (Kolombangara).
BOUGAINVILLE Island.
BURMA.
AKYAB town.
River craft near POKOKKU on the IRRAWADDY.
Enemy position on the KALADAN River.
Sampans on the IRRAWADDY and KALADAN Rivers.

29—8—43. (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
DAY :—
Railway and canal targets in FRANCE and North-west Germany (1 Allied plane missing 1 enemy plane destroyed).
NIGHT :—
No information.
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
(17 Axis planes shot down).
Marshalling yards at ORTE.

TORRE and ANNUNZIATA (Italy).
Road and rail communications at COSENZA.
Shipping along the coast of ITALY.
Marshalling yards at LE MEZIA (Italy).

RUSSIA.

(59 Axis planes shot down).
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
The Railway junction at BRYANSK.

FAR EAST.

Jap air-field at Buin (Bougainville Island).
(14 Jap planes shot down).
REKATA BAY (Santa Isabel Island).
Enemy barges off KOLOMBANGARA (Solomons).
Barges near GANONGGA.
Enemy cargo ship off KAVIENG (N. Ireland).
Jap barges in the JACQUINOT BAY (N. Britain).
Barge hide outs on the MA PO River.
FINSCHHAFAN area.

BURMA.

Buildings in MYITKYINA area.
Barracks area at KYAUKRYU Island.
RAMREE Island.
AKYAB town.
Railway buildings at KYAUNGIN.
Japanese army huts in the KALEMYO District.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

24—8—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the DONBAS area.

FAR EAST.

NASSAU BAY area.

25—8—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN, RUSSIA and FAR EAST.

No information.

26—8—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

NORTH AFRICA.

ALGIERS (3 enemy planes shot down).

RUSSIA.

Russian positions south of KHARKOV.

27—8—43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA and FAR EAST.

No information.

28—8—43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the BRYANSK and POLTOVA areas.

FAR EAST.

No information.

29—8—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

STALINO area.

FAR EAST.

No information.

30—8—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

KRASNOGRAD area.

FAR EAST.

No information.

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE FIFTH YEAR PROSPECTS.

The War has entered on its fifth year, with Allied prospects of Victory, brighter than ever before. As we look back we see the abysses and chasms that yawned, and the heights scaled, the catastrophic dangers that threatened and the Herculean efforts that averted them. When war broke out an all-powerful GERMANY overran EUROPE and threatened AFRICA and ASIA. BRITAIN, powerful only at sea, had not yet been joined by RUSSIA strong on land and AMERICA, with her great resources. But the hour of trial became the hour of heroism. In patience BRITAIN gathered her allies and built up mighty forces, which now have driven the enemy from AFRICA into EUROPE and are battering his homeland. The debt has been repaid, not only of DUNKIRK at BON, but of ROTTERDAM, WARSAW and BELGRADE, at COLOGNE, HAMBURG and BERLIN and a score of other places.

Four years of Valour and Vision have succeeded at last. ITALY has been beaten and is as good as out of the war. GERMANY and JAPAN are no longer aggressors but driven from their outer posts are abandoning conquered territories—dear to the heart of tyrants—one after another, and are retreating into their shells in the vain hope of saving remnants, their armies weakened and bled white, while behind them rise the forces of revenge from their own enslaved nations. The darkest hours of the night are over and **Aurora streaks the sky.**

TWO NOTABLE SPEECHES. President Roosevelt's speech at OTTAWA, and Mr. Churchill's at QUEBEC, are two notable utterances of the week. Like common men, Roosevelt is not tired of reiterating the great war aims, because they are, when all is said, the main inspiring forces of action and urge, and men must be reminded, lest they should forget, what they fight for and die for. Axisism is gangsterism. Let us not go back to the good *old* days as they are called, he said, but to *new* and better days. The Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter were no nonsense because they were not immediately attainable ; but were mile stones in human progress, even as the Declaration of Independence and the Magna Carta were.

Churchill struck a more topical note in his QUEBEC address. FRANCE will rise again, he exclaimed, free, united and independent. CANADA's contribution in men and material was marvellous. ITALY is paying the price of criminal company. The death of Boris is the wages of sin.

With his characteristic sense of realities he asked himself the questions of the hour, and answered them in his usual frank way. Stalin's absence from QUEBEC, he explained, was because he held the double office of commander of the Army and head of the State. It was most dangerous for a commander to leave the scene of operations in the midst of a successful drive, and for the head of the State to negotiate with JAPAN's enemies for JAPAN's downfall, while JAPAN remained a friend of RUSSIA.

Another question of the hour was the Second Front. RUSSIA may demand one, he observed, but it can be only when the arrangements were ready. 'It is easier to have a front pulled down than it is to build it up again. The Allies had once a fine front in FRANCE but it was torn to pieces.'

Equally frank was his answer to the question when the war will end. The speculation is idle. 'If Almighty God, in His Mercy, should lighten or shorten our labours, and the torment of mankind, His servants would be thankful.'

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THE BATTLE OF EUROPE is approaching. The conquest of SICILY in 6 weeks—by itself a notable performance, has opened up not only the Mediterranean but EUROPE as well, because SICILY, as the *Times* has said, 'looks in all directions'. The Sicilian campaign has given the necessary training to troops fresh from AMERICA and an experience of the highest value in amphibian operations. The hilly terrain has made the infantry practised in assault and advance—in preparation for the final attacks that will precede the surrender of GERMANY. The invasion of ITALY has begun. The 8th Army has landed on the 'toe' of ITALY.

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LINE SHORTENING. For Hitler the year begins in disasters, preceded by a succession of black weeks, by his expulsion from SICILY, and by his defeats at OREL, KHARKOV and TAGANROG. But his reverses are by no means over. The more he withdraws, the more he is pursued. Hitler's defeats are not like those of BRITAIN at the beginning of the war. Then GERMANY started the war in her own good time. Though with her strength at the maximum she could not achieve victory, and BRITAIN at her weakest could ward off the blow. Now the position has become reversed. GERMANY is at her weakest and the Allies in their full strength.

Moreover, as modern warfare goes the present German strategy of evacuation and the shortening of lines is suicidal. The smaller the fortress, the more crowded it becomes and therefore the better target it will be from the air. Air supremacy can pursue the foe wherever he retreats, Siegfried lines notwithstanding. Air war is the best softener of recalcitrant nations ; it is both strategy and politics in action ; it will break cities as well as hearts. Badoglio is being 'softened'. To Hitler it is the writing on the wall.

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INSIDE HITLER'S FORTRESS. *The Balkans.*—Things are not going well for Hitler inside his fortress either. In the Balkans some Italian troops have gone over to the guerillas, some have escaped to their homelands, and the rest are under German guards. It is said that half of GERMANY's reserves are kept here 'to put matters right.'

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BULGARIA. King Boris, Hitler's confiderate in BULGARIA, is dead—in most suspicious circumstances, and has been succeeded by a boy-king. BULGARIA is the southern bulwark of GERMANY. Its troops police YUGOSLAVIA and GREECE.

DENMARK's King, Queen and Crown Prince, her ministers and officers, are under arrest, and the country has been placed under martial law. Six Danish warships have escaped to SWEDEN and 35 other ships have been scuttled. A German cruiser and 5 other warships have dropped anchor at COPENHAGEN.

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FRANCE. A quarter of a million men, many of them armed, are waiting in FRANCE to join the Allies as soon as they land. An ultimatum, issued jointly by the C-in-C. of the German forces of occupation and the VICHY Government, affirms that extensive dumps dropped by the Allied planes exist all over FRANCE. There was a pitched battle in LYONS when one such dump was discovered there. French patriots have been threatened with death if arms are not surrendered. NICE and CANNES have been occupied by German troops and PARIS is being fortified.

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THE HIMMLER REGIME. Within a few hours of the fall of KHARKOV, Himmler, the Gestapo Chief, has been appointed German Minister of the Interior, obviously to meet a crisis in the home front. Propaganda having failed, terror is now to take its place. Himmler, nicknamed the hangman of EUROPE, is the most dreaded man in EUROPE to-day. The appointment is in keeping with the recent trend in Nazi policy, which is aimed at bringing the entire Government under Himmler's S. S. It already controls Labour, Justice, Public Health, Industry, and the Diplomatic Service. The S. S. and the Waffen S. S. (its armed branch) are Hitler's reserves to be employed in case of a civil war. Hitler has dragooned the Press and gagged the Radio, and with the appointment of Himmler as Minister of the Interior the S. S. tentacles will reach every nook and corner. The German people have only two alternatives now to face—the United Nations' assault by land, sea, and air, or the harsher and swifter punishment of Himmler's firing squads and rubber truncheons.

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BERLIN. The R. A. F. raids on BERLIN on August 23 and 25 are the heaviest on record. On 23rd 700 bombers, escorted by a large force of fighters, dropped more than 2,000 tons of bombs. The 25th raid led to the

closing of all offices, shops and factories. The city is described as 'dead'. BERLIN is not only the capital and an important centre of industries but the headquarters of occupied EUROPE. The psychological effects on the whole continent are immense.

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ITALY. The battle of ITALY, as it takes place now, is the battle of BRITAIN of 1940 in reverse. In 1940 GERMANY, the invading armada, lost more planes than the raided country but now the Germans in ITALY are losing more planes than the Allies. In the first 3 days of the battle Kesselring lost 100 aircraft, with dozens more damaged, for an Allied loss of 35 planes. Every main and secondary line passing through the area between NAPLES on the west coast and FOGGIA have been shattered, so that the German divisions in the south have to struggle along a 300-mile area before they can join up with the German troops massing along the River Po.

Allied blasting of the Italian railway system follows a careful plan; first the junction of FOGGIA, then BENEVENTO, between NAPLES and FOGGIA, and now AVERSA, VILLA, LITERIO, CANCELLO, TORRE and AUNUNZIATA around NAPLES.

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THE FRENCH COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION. Recognition at long last has been accorded to this Committee by the British and American Governments, though still to a limited extent, not as a Government of FRANCE or of the French Empire, but as an administrative unity whose main duty will be be to assist in the Allied war effort. It closes, though tardily, a difficult chapter in Anglo-American French relations. Also, as *the Times* has said, 'it prepares the way for final relegation to oblivion of the Men of Vichy.'

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LEASE/LEND Up to the end of July 1943, the lease/lend material, of which one half was munitions, amounted to 14,000,000,000 dollars. In disclosing these figures President Roosevelt in a report to the Congress has stated;—

"The U. S. wants no war debts. Victory and secure peace are the coin in which repayment can be made. The enemy will be hit until the day of his unconditional surrender."

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THE S. E. ASIA COMMAND. The creation of a separate S. E. ASIA COMMAND to conduct operations against JAPAN from INDIA and CEYLON is one of the first fruits of the Quebec conference, Lord Louis Mountbatten, Vice-Admiral, Lieut-General, and Air-Vice-Marshal—the hero of the commando raids on VAAGSO, BRUNEVAL and DIEPPE—has been appointed to the command. The reason is obvious. Advance into BURMA from INDIA by land is beset with the difficulties of terrain, climate, and communications. The approach to JAPAN by way of the S. W. Pacific is studded with thousands of islands in any of which the enemy may take refuge. From SINGAPORE it is at least a thousand miles to the Irrawaddy. The easiest approach is *Via* RANGOON by amphibious operations. British Armies, which, in the words of Lord Mountbatten, have nowhere to go unless they asked 'for a ticket in the Combined Operations Steamship Company' are spoiling for a fight. The Mediterranean Victories have set free part of the British Navy. No wonder that larger operations, requiring a separate command, are to follow. A year ago INDIA was on the defence, she will now be an attacker. We are on the eve of big happenings.

THE INDIAN AIR FORCE TRAINING CORPS. The University of MADRAS has taken a big step forward by introducing courses in aeronautical and automobile engineering. H. E. The Governor, inaugurating the first of these courses on Aug. 26, assured the students that they need have no fears that they would not be needed after the war had ended. There would always be an Indian Air Force. INDIA being a country of distances would provide many opportunities for air-minded young men in civil aviation. The aerodromes that had been newly built in the past few months could be easily adapted to civilian needs. The Indian Force, added Sir Guy Garrod, was 'a symbol of modern INDIA' and 'the INDIA of the future'. It stood for an UNITED INDIA, irrespective of race or creed.

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WAR LEGISLATION IN PUDUKKOTTAI. (1) The Pudukkottai Cotton Cloth Dealers Licensing Order, 1943, provides that, except mill owners no person, after Oct. 15, 1943, shall sell or store for sale, cloth except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence. This does not apply to cloth made by any one with the assistance of members of his family. (2) Under the Pudukkottai Gur Control order 1943 the Gur Controller of INDIA who is also ex-officio 'Controller' for the State may fix prices, quantities, types, grades and supplies of gur and regulate the sale of sugar-cane and the manufacture of gur.

ROOSEVELT'S OTTAWA ADDRESS.

"It was exactly five years ago last Wednesday that I came to Canada to receive the high honour of a degree at the University. On that occasion, one year before the invasion of Poland and three years before Pearl Harbour, I said that we, in the Americas, are no longer a far away continent to which the eddies of controversies beyond the sea could bring no interest and no harm. Instead, we in the Americas have become a consideration to every propaganda office and every General Staff beyond the seas. The large amount of our resources, the vigour of our commerce, and the strength of our men, have made us a vital force in world peace whether we choose it or not. We did not choose this war, and this 'we' includes each and everyone of the United Nations.

The war was violently forced upon us by criminal aggressors, who measure their standards of morality by the extent of death and destruction that they can inflict upon their neighbours.

In this war, Canadians and Americans have fought shoulder to shoulder, as our men, our women and our children have worked together and played together in the happier times of peace.

To-day we are celebrating a brilliant victory won by British, Canadian and American fighting men in Sicily. A year ago, Japan occupied several of the Aleutian Islands on our side of the ocean, and made a great to-do about the invasion of the continent of America.

WISE COUNSELS SUCCEED.

I regret to say that some Americans and some Canadians wished our Governments to withdraw from the Atlantic and Mediterranean campaigns, and divert all our large combined strength for the removal of the Japanese from a few rocky specks in the North

Pacific. To-day our wiser counsels have maintained their efforts in the Altantic and the Mediterranean, in the China Sea and in the S. W. Pacific, with ever-growing contributions: and, in the N. W. Pacific a relatively small campaign has been assisted by the Japanese themselves in the elimination of the last Jap from Attu and Kiska. We have been told that the Japanese never surrender. Their headlong retreat satisfies us just as well. (*Laughter and cheers*).

THE QUEBEC DECISIONS.

During the past few days in Quebec, the combined Staffs have been sitting around tables, which is a good custom, talking things over, discussing ways and means in the manner of friends, in the manner of partners, and, may I even say, in the manner of members of the same family (*Great applause*). We have talked constructively of our common purposes in this war, of our determination to achieve victory in the shortest possible time, and of our essential co-operation with our great and brave fighting Allies; and we have arrived harmoniously at certain definite conclusions. Of course, I am not at liberty to disclose just what these conclusions are, but in due time, we shall communicate the secret information of the Quebec Conference to Germany, Italy, and Japan (*Great applause*). We shall communicate this information to our enemies in the only language that their twisted minds seem capable of understanding (*Applause*).

Sometimes, I wish that that great master of intuition, the Nazi leader, could have been present in spirit at the Quebec Conference. I am thoroughly glad that he was not there in person (*Laughter and applause*). If he and his fellow generals had known our plans they would have realised that discretion was still the better part of valour, and that surrender would pay them better now than later (*Applause*).

THE NAZI METHOD.

The evil characteristic that makes the Nazi a Nazi is his utter inability to understand, and therefore to respect, the qualities and the rights of his fellowmen.

His only method of dealing with his neighbour is, first to delude him with lies, then to attack him treacherously, then to beat him down and step on him, and then either to jail or enslave him. The same thing is true about the fanatical militarists of Japan.

"Because their own instincts and impulses are essentially inhuman, our enemies simply cannot comprehend how it is that decent and sensible individual human beings manage to get along together, and live together, as neighbours. That is why our enemies are doing their desperate best to misinterpret the purposes and the results of this Quebec Conference. They still seek to divide and conquer the Allies, who refuse to be divided just as cheerfully as they refuse to be conquered. We spend our energies, our resources, and the very lives of our sons and daughters, because a gang of gangsters in the community of nations fail to recognise the fundamentals of decent human conduct.

"We have been forced to call out what we, in the United States, would call the Sheriff's posse, to break up the gang, in order that gangsterism may be eliminated in the community of nations.

MAKING SURE OF PEACE.

We are making sure, absolutely and irrevocably sure, that this time the lesson will be driven home to them once and for all. We are going to be rid of the outlaws this time (Prolonged applause).

Everyone of the United Nations believes in a real and lasting peace, and justifies the sacrifices we are making; and our unanimity is as confident in seeking that goal. It

s no secret that, at Quebec, there was much talk of the post-war world. That discussion was doubtless duplicated simultaneously in dozens of nations and hundreds of cities, and among millions of people.

There is a longing in the air. It is not a longing to go back to what they call 'the good old days,' I have distinct reservations as to how good the good old days were. I would rather believe that we can achieve new and better days.

Absolute victory in this war will give greater opportunities to the world, because the winning of the war, in itself, is certainly proving to all of us here that concerted action can accomplish things.

A GREATER FREEDOM.

Surely, we can make strides towards greater freedom from want than in the world that we have enjoyed. Surely, by unanimous action in driving out the outaws, and keeping them under the heel for ever, we can attain freedom from fear and violence.

I am ever-lastingly angry, always, at those who assert vociferously that the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter are nonsense, because they are unattainable. If they had lived a century and a half ago, they would have sneered and said that the Declaration of Independence was simply piffle. If they had lived nearly a thousand years ago, they would have laughed uproariously at the Magna Carta. We cannot arrive at Utopia overnight but I would rather be a builder than a wrecker, hoping always that the structure of life is growing—not dying. The destroyers who still exist in our midst, like some of our enemies, have a long road to travel before they accept the ethics of humanity Some day, in the distant future perhaps, but some day with certainty, all of them will remember with the Master: 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself'."

VICEROY'S ADDRESS TO INDIAN TROOPS.

Meanwhile the duty of all of you is quite clear. It is to do your utmost, every man in his job, to raise the fighting efficiency of every unit, and the co-operation between units, to the highest possible pitch. Do not allow staleness to creep in.

The tide has turned, and things everywhere are going well for us. Now is the time to redouble our efforts, and, when the opening comes, to go for the 'knock-out.'

Work on weapons, drills and tactical exercises, for all you are worth. You will be very well repaid for your pains when the days of trial come; that I can promise you. Wherever you go, and whatever task you are called upon to perform, I wish you, one and all, the very best of luck.

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN.

The man of Vaagso and Bruneval, of St. Nazaire and Dieppe, the man who has given Hitler's coastline watchers something much worse than sleepless nights—Mountbatten of the Commandos—is now to lead the Allied forces in South-East Asia. This is perhaps the first time that a man of the sea has been given supreme command in any theatre of war. For Lord Louis Mountbatten is first and foremost a man of the sea, although he holds ranks in the other two services also. He is in the Navy—and the Navy is in him.

He is a sailor of sailoring stock. But he has a combined-operations mind, because he is attracted by anything new—anything that gives him a chance to be inventive. He was largely reponsible for perfecting the wireless system of the British Navy.

Lord Louis, who was born in 1900, is a grandson of Queen Victoria, and son of the German Prince Louis of Battenberg and Princess Victoria. Prince Louis, who became a naturalised Britisher in 1868, served many years in the Royal Navy and was First Sea Lord at the outbreak of the First World War.

Lord Louis was apprenticed to the sea at the age of 12, and four years later got caught up in the First World War. He slung his first hammock as a midshipman in Admiral Beatty's flagship, H. M. S. *Lion*, in 1916, and there began his long and adventurous service career. But his career is not just a dull list of appointments. He has been a gay social figure.

When the Second World War broke out, however, Lord Louis became solely a fighting man. He was then a Captain in command of the Fifth Destroyer Flotilla. Three months later his flagship, the new destroyer *Kelly*, hit a mine in the North Sea. Lord Louis nursed her home, for repairs. In the following summer she was torpedoed off Norway, but through four days of bombing Lord Louis again got her back to port. He finally lost the *Kelly* on May 23, 1941, during the battle of Crete.

In August 1941, he was given command of the aircraft-carrier *Illustrious*, which was undergoing repairs in an American naval yard. But his purely naval career was drawing to a close, for presently he was appointed Chief of Combined Operations. In this capacity he directed not only the Commando troops themselves but the naval and air units which share the labour, glory and death of Britain's shock troops. Therefore he was also given honorary ranks in the Army and the R. A. F., although Lord Louis always wears his Vice-Admiral's uniform. Lord Louis was chiefly responsible for the brilliantly executed combined operations raids on the Lofoten islands, Boulogne, Vaagso islands, St. Nazaire and Dieppe.

The Commandos have made countless other unannounced raids on coastal France, Norway, the Netherlands, even on Italy and Africa. Often their bag is no more than a few Nazi soldiers and officers, isolated damage to small Nazi posts—and the incalculable effects upon Nazi morale of swift, unannounced, murderous visits after dark. But, in terms of British morale alone, the Commandos' value has been immense. In the terms of damage to Nazi morale and the uplift to civilian morale in occupied countries, it may well have been even greater. They have gathered information about Nazi coastal dispositions which may some day be very helpful to a real invasion. Most important of all, they know the technique of invasion, as no other Allied troops know it.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERLIN.

(*Pierre Huss*).

(*Condensed from " World At War ", New York*).

There are of course also Roads Leading to two other places. One of them in all probability will be reached before Berlin. The other should not be long after that.

" Unconditional surrender " of the Axis in Europe and the Far East stands to-day as the inflexible goal of the United Nations.

The problem in the minds of Allied observers is the route of approach to the Continent, the short cut to smashing Hitler.

Looking at the map, and in the light of President Roosevelt's forecast of the probable launching of several invasion onslaughts simultaneously, it becomes clear that at least five main routes of attack are open to the Allies.

Each or several can be selected for the massive knockout blow to finish Hitler, while body punching him from various other directions.

Further more, it should be kept in mind that while the invasion onslaught is under way, Axis cities and strong points will smoke and rock under thousands of tons of incendiary and explosive bombs. At the same time, in occupied lands, the outraged peoples will rise in savage fury to settle scores with their oppressors, thus stabbing the defensive power of the Axis armies in the back.

FORMIDABLE FORTRESS.

But in the five major roads of approach to the Reich lies the main Allied hope for speedy and decisive victory over Hitler. He sits astride all of them, entrenched behind the most modern fortification systems yet built by man. It can be assumed, too, that every ounce of resistance left in the Nazi Wehrmacht will be expended to meet the coming invasion assaults.

He can be tackled from across the English Channel through France and the Low lands; he can be attacked through a smashing drive through Italy or by striking at the "soft under-belly of the Axis" in Greece and the Balkans. Finally, he can be hit with staggering force from Russia, in conjunction with or as a joint attack on the part of the United Nations.

These routes of attack on Hitler are well guarded, but he is vulnerable in each.

He has convinced himself and his Nazis that he is safe behind his super-wall of fortifications along the lowland and French Channel coasts.

The war has proved that nothing is impossible and that no modern fortifications are invincible.

Why should Hitler's line on the Channel prove an exception under a massive air, and and sea onslaught ?

SHORTEST CUT.

Should the Allied supreme command select the Lowlands and France for the main invasion route, then the advantage of short distance from supply and bases of operation are on its side, for the English Channel is only 20 miles wide in parts.

All the striking might of sea, land and air forces within easy distance of the goal can be counted on. Such concentrated power can be enormous at point-blank range from the target, and might well prove overwhelming.

I have seen a large portion of Hitler's defence line on the Channel, which runs from the Lowlands along the coast clear through France.

The main strength lies in a closely inter-woven network of pillboxes, spaced liberally with every kind of tank and assault obstacle known.

This fortified zone has a varying depth inland of from 10 to 30 miles, the purpose being to "bleed" any attacking forces, and thus rob them in the end of all offensive power.

TIME WILL SHOW.

The Nazis consider this elastic type of defence system practically impregnable, especially when manned by 25 crack defence divisions which can be reinforced at any moment with huge bodies of mobile troops.

However, it remains to be seen whether these Nazi defence lines can withstand the overwhelming air and land assaults planned for them by the Allies in the near future. Like the Maginot Line, they may crumble before Hitler's very eyes. That would number his days and settle his fate.

To make doubly sure against a break in the western approach, the Nazis also have partially rebuilt the old Hindenburg Line of 1918 and turned the Maginot Line round by blasting loopholes and reversing the direction of its fire-power. In Germany proper stands the Siegfried Line, built at great cost before the war by Hitler's labour battalions as a barrier against an Anglo-French invasion. I have seen all those defence systems, and they are formidable lines. Although I believe them vulnerable to a large scale air and land attack, it would be less costly in men and material to the Allies perhaps if the major invasion march against the Axis came from one or more of the four other directions.

SMASH ACROSS ITALY.

A staggering smash across Italy into the Dalmatian coast might crack the Nazi armour at one of its weakest points.

The Italian boot itself is vulnerable. An Allied landing thereon is apt to precipitate a revolution. [Allies have landed.—*Ed.*]

Frantic fortification work is being undertaken by the Nazis in Southern France, but the time is short and the Nazis may lose that race. Such a route would bring the armies of the United Nations behind the Hitler lines on the Atlantic and the Channel, while a joint push from the Dalmatian coast northward can then help rip a wide path toward Nazi land over territory hostile to the Axis.

STRIKING AT THE UNDERBELLY.

Striking from key bases in the Mediterranean at the "soft underbelly of the Axis", the United Nations are sure to find collaboration and welcome in many of the Balkan areas. Greece is waiting to rise as one man against Hitler, inflaming therewith the smouldering hatred of the Axis in Yugoslavia and as far north as Czechoslovakia. Guerilla armies are sure to crop up like dragon's teeth behind Hitler's back once an Allied onslaught comes in force from the south of Europe.

Hitler has "dug in" as strongly as possible astride the roads leading from Mediterranean points northward to Germany. I followed the German army as American correspondent in 1941 through the Balkans to Athens. Fourteen mountain passes must be crossed by any invading army moving into Europe from the Greek shores, and each of these passes has been fortified by the Nazis. One of the heavy lines in the Allied path from that direction would be the old Metaxas Line, on the Bulgar-Greek boundary. Its circumvention can be accomplished through Salonika, a Greek seaport.

The valley of the Danube always has been the great trade and military route into and out of Central Europe. In the 1941 campaign, the Yugoslavs made it their business to dynamite every bridge over the broad Danube. The Germans threw improvised pontoon passages into place.

FORMIDABLE TASK.

An attack through the Balkans, therefore, means that the Allied engineering corps will have to grapple with one of the most important jobs ever faced. Heavy fortifications have been slung around the famed "Iron Gates" by the Germans to protect the Danubian route against come what may.

Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Turkey has brightened the prospects for broadened fields of action against the Axis. If Turkey swings into the camp of the United Nations, then the road of attack through the Balkans gains tremendously in perspective. Simultaneously with an onslaught through Greece, a twin blow through Rumania may be launched. This direction immediately endangers the Ploesti oil-fields, at the moment Hitler's major source of fuel oil.

NATURAL ROAD.

Furthermore, the road to Berlin via Rumania, Hungary and Austria—geographically and militarily speaking—is the natural one. A joint Allied offensive through Greece and Rumania could well prove fatal to the Axis in record time.

The main prerequisite to conquest of the Nazis over the Balkan route, as far as I could see while following the German army, is absolute control of the air. That is how the Nazis swept through the Balkans. That is how the United Nations can once again sweep back into Europe.

It would be shrewd military strategy if the Allied plan called for simultaneous assaults from the south and the north. This would make it a nutcracker move in huge pincer form against Hitler, his own favourite tactics.

THE NORTHERN BLOW.

The northern blow in such case would smash at him through Norway, and perhaps other Scandinavian lands. The Nazis have sought to make the Norwegian coast impregnable through extensive fortification, but a determined Allied onslaught—aided by an interior uprising—could hamstring the Nazis to such an extent that their defeat would be inevitable.

Enormous difficulties in terrain and transportation must be overcome by any forces advancing via Norway. The Nazis along that route are sure to fight with bitter determination, for once an enemy advance approaches from Norway toward Denmark and the Baltic, the great naval gates of Kiel and Wilhemshaven are threatened. Furthermore, such an Allied advance would compel the Nazis to retreat from the Baltic lands, therewith leaving themselves wide open to an annihilating attack from the Red Army.

Whichever of the routes outlined so far is chosen, there remains also the pivotal line of invasion from the burning front. From that direction Hitler is apt to be suddenly overwhelmed if Allied invasions crack hard enough.

For that reason, it is not at all unlikely that Allied armies transported via the Middle East will suddenly appear side by side with Red Armies to hurl the Nazis back.

EAST WALL.

Against such a contingency, Hitler, two years ago, completed the so-called East wall a heavy line of fortifications running through Eastern Poland and into East Prussia. The Nazis will grimly defend themselves to the last ditch if concerned in those regions.

All in all, therefore, the five routes of attack on Hitler are clearly perceptible. It is probable, judging from the implications and forecasts made by Roosevelt and Churchill, that all of these routes in one way or another will be used eventually by invading Allied armies.

Those persecuted nationals who have been unfortunate enough to live under the yoke of Nazi tyranny will be ready and waiting for the day when the inner fort of Hitler's empire wil be cracked.

And they will be the nucleus of the surging tide which will eventually overwhelm the ever recurring dream of world conquest. And the eventual "Road to Berlin" will be found irrespective of which channel it shall take, irrespective of how many lives or how much money it shall cost.

Hitler, try as he will, cannot hold all of his strongholds against the rushing tide. Along one of these five roads, be it east or west or north or south, he will stagger and fall.

And he will leave the way to Berlin wide open for the greatest of all Allied victories in Europe.

ALLIES NEARER TOTAL VICTORY.

(*Wickham Steed*).

In 39 days after their first landing in Sicily, the Allied forces have conquered the whole island. Messina has fallen. The Italian mainland is now within range of Allied artillery and may soon be invaded in its turn. (It has been. Ed.) Italy is thus confronted with an urgent choice between capitulation and the certainty of progressive devastation by Allied aircraft and inland operations.

If Marshal Badoglio's offer to declare Rome an open city is an attempt to provide a third alternative, it can hardly be acceptable to the Allied Governments. It would imply delay while Rome was being completely demilitarised under the supervision of the protecting Power. The seat of Government and all Italian or German military organisations would have to be removed. Meanwhile the war would go on.

British opinion regards Badoglio's offer as either a trick to gain time for his Government and the German army in Italy, or as a prelude to complete capitulation.

The Allies can allow Italy no respite. She must capitulate forthwith or expose all other centres of war industry and military communications to the fate which Badoglio's procrastination has brought upon Milan and Turin.

Only prompt capitulation can save Italy from being sacrificed to German military interests. Those interests are now threatened on all sides. The Russian summer offensive is daily recovering ground held by Germany since 1941. In three months 90 German U-boats have been sunk at sea by Allied aircraft and warships.

United States bombers, which recently wrecked the great oil refineries at Ploesti in Rumania, have now wrecked the large German aircraft works at Regensburg in Bavaria and Wiener Neustadt near Vienna. British aircraft have crushed Nuremberg after Hamburg, Cologne and the Ruhr. From the Sicilian airfields in Allied possession at present, and from airfields in Italy later, every important centre of Axis supplies or resistance in Bulgaria, Hungary and Austria will be open to aerial bombardment.

The German home propaganda seeks to comfort millions of civilians who, are escaping from German cities, by pretending that the Germans are fortunate, because their armies are fighting thousands of kilometres away from German soil. The former inhabitants of Hamburg, Cologne and Berlin are believed not to find this argument convincing.

German resources in men and material may be more severely strained than ever before, both by the reality of Allied attack and by the uncertainty about the quarter or quarters in which the attack will come.

No disposition exists in Britain, the United States or Russia to underestimate the German strength, or the spirit of desperation of the German soldiers whom total defeat stares in the face. Yet surprise is felt that German headquarters should represent the Axis defeat in Sicily as an outstanding German victory, lest an admission of defeat depress the national spirit.

The truth is that the Allied soldiers expected the Sicilian campaign to last much longer and to be far more difficult than it has proved.

No estimate of military prospects can ignore the present potency of long-range bombing. If British aircraft from home bases can visit Turin and Milan night after night, while United States aircraft from the Middle East or North Africa can bomb Rumania, and Austria, or in the Pacific can fly 2,500 miles from Australia to Borneo and back, no Axis centre in Europe or the Far East can be sure of escaping destruction.

These long-range exploits are not isolated or merely spectacular undertakings. They form a part of a co-ordinated strategy and tactics which increasing air superiority will render a permanent feature of the Allied warfare. They are foretastes of the wrath to come, not substitutes for massive action. Indeed they herald massive action. Together with the heavy defeat of German submarines in the Atlantic, they add a new grimness to the ordeal which awaits Germany. President Roosevelt has said that the Allies stand on the threshold of great events. A careful appraisal of the present conditions and future probabilities tends to confirm his prediction. The Allied cause has not yet triumphed, but the Axis is nearer total defeat than many calm judges anticipated at the opening of the Sicilian campaign.

RESULTS OF SICILIAN VICTORY.

Now that the Sicilian campaign can be regarded as ended, London commentators make the following points :—

(1) The end of the campaign marks the conclusion of the first battle fought within the confines of the " Festung Europa ".

(2) The battle was not necessarily typical of future battles, because owing to the nature of the country neither side could use tanks to any extent. It was a head-on collision between two highly trained bodies of infantry. The result is yet another demonstration of the superiority of Allied fighting men, yet another defeat of German delaying actions.

(3) Considering that large-scale battle manoeuvre was precluded, it is remarkable how quickly we won.

It is pointed out in London that one general and two technical aspects of the Sicilian battle are significant for future operations.

1. *General*:—It showed that Allied sea power possessed such a measure of superiority that a landing could be made at a time and place chosen by the High Command; similarly Allied air power is so much superior to that of the enemy that British and American fighters could put up an umbrella over our landing operations within easy range of numerous aerodromes held by the enemy. However, air power had paved the way, first by blasting Axis aerodromes preparatory to the offensive; secondly by temporarily cutting off, Sicily from Italy, so far as large ships were concerned, by attacks on port installations, shipping, etc.

2. *Technical* :—The Sicilian battle was the first time Allied parachutists were used against a fully defended area, and valuable lessons were learnt from their tactical use.

The actual landings showed that the invasion barges, developed in the first place by Britain, were capable of landing a powerful modern force with all its equipment in by no means ideal conditions. It will be remembered that it was blowing fairly hard and a swell was running when the invasion took place. London commentators point out that the immediate military consequences of the occupation of Sicily are : (1) It was recognised that one flank of the Mediterranean route to the Middle East and the Far East was secured when we took Tunisia. Now the other flank is finally secured.

(2) Britain has added to her unsinkable aircraft-carriers. Malta and the British Isles have always been in this category. Now Sicily is the third.

Allied aircraft, it is pointed out, will only be slightly closer to targets in Central and Northern Italy, but Sicilian-based aircraft will be 140 miles closer to South-East Italy—Bari, Brindisi and Taranto–than Malta-based aircraft, and 250 miles closer than Bizerta–based aircraft. Similarly, the Allied air threat to the Western Balkans has increased

(3) The significance of the establishment of Allied forces in the closest proximity to Italy is summed up by the enemy himself. The *Messaggero* said: "Sicily's fundamental function is to act as a bastion for Italy and the European continent". Again, the Trans, Ocean stated :—"Possession of Sicily is an important prerequisite for any possibility of Anglo-U. S. success". The enemy will certainly now expect an Allied assault on Italy.

Finally, two political consequences emerge : (1) It has been shown beyond doubt that the populations inside the Festung are ready to welcome Allied troops. (2) London commentators point out that by continuing Mussolini's German alliance Badoglio is

bringing on a succession of disasters to Italy. Sicily has been lost; the mainland has been brought within reach of direct assault and heavy bombardment from the air. The Badoglio Government has hastened the financial and economic dislocations of Italy, and it is thought in London that the only possibility the Italian people have of avoiding the full consequences of war is by forcing the Badoglio Government to capitulate.

U-BOAT FAILURE CAUSES GLOOM.

5,000 GERMAN—FAMILIES IN MOURNING.

(*A. J. McWhinnie*).

I am now convinced that the truth regarding the failure of U-boats and the real dimensions of that failure are known to the German people.

Gloom about the U-boat situation is sweeping Germany, gloom not only because Hitler's chief remaining weapon has failed in the latest round, but becuse of the loss of so many young U-boat crews during the last few weeks.

The personnel factor is much more important than the number of vessels. Hitler and his Admirals even after the smashing of Hamburg may still be able to replace their losses by mass production elsewhere. But they have difficulty in replacing the skill, training and experience of the lost men.

The official Anglo-American figure of more than 90 U-boats, known to have been destroyed in May, June and July, carried with it the inescapable fact that with those U-boats went more than 4,000 trained men.

ADMISSIONS OF NEW DIFFICULTIES.

The average U-boat complement is 45. On that basis 90 U-boats would carry over 4,000 men. But as the official statement shows that the figure of lost German submarines is more than 90, the figure of lost U-boat personnel may well be nearer 5,000.

That means that there are something like 5,000 German families to-day mourning a U-boat man, families scattered over the length and breadth of Germany. Because these reverses can no longer be concealed from these people, German spokesmen have made unusually frank speeches emphasing that they are up against new weapons, new tactics and new sea and air strength.

I do not suggest that there is yet any real evidence that U-boat morale has started cracking, The crews are mainly young, and since they are members of the Hitler Youth Movement they have been moulded into fanatical young Nazis.

Nevertheless, my own opinion, based on first hand experience, is that the skill and experience of to-day's U-boat men is showing signs of deterioration compared with those at work during the first three years of the war. And above all, however fanatical they may still be, their confidence must have been badly shaken.

The latest Allied sea war statement indicated that U-boats are widely dispersed over distant waters. I have all along forecast increased U-boat activity further south, off the west coast of Africa, off the coast of Brazil, off the Cape and even in the Indian Ocean.

In those waters, no doubt, they hope to achieve some cheap success by avoiding the overwhelming dangers of the North Atlantic. I think they will find that even in those distant waters there is new strength round scattered Allied ocean convoys. There is no doubt in Britain's naval mind that a decisive sea battle must be fought in the North Atlantic and the approaches to the Mediterranean, and that Britain's naval forces must always be ready to meet any new threat in these waters.

IDLE GERMAN BATTLESHIPS.

The sea war picture is far bigger than just the U-boat one. Germany is planting rumours in neutral countries suggesting that their big warships are coming out into the Atlantic as "a high seas fleet." I doubt it, although the possibility of some of them emerging in their original rôle as single commerce raiders cannot be discounted.

I do anticipate, however, some movement of those German warships down to the Baltic for refitting. This would have the effect of making idle German surface navy men feel that soon they may be called on to fight. German Admirals must have realised the importance of this. Their own history tells them that battleships kept in port make fine breeding grounds for mutinies and revolts.

ALLIED SHIPPING GAINS.

The sea war position at the moment in brief is this :—

1. U-boats having lost another round will try everything that they can stage to come-back.

2. German Admirals have still failed to find a way to stem great seaborne invasions. They must have been shocked by the insignificant losses sustained by the Allies in the invasion of Sicily.

3. Three months of failure of U-boats, coupled with the Allied re-opening of the Mediterranean, has materially swollen the amount of Allied invasion tonnage available for operational needs.

4. Not since the war began has German sea position been so weak, or the Allied command of the seas so strong.

But final victory, it must be stressed, has still to be won. The Allies are fighting now for a knock-out.

CURSE ON THE MURDERERS!

A. Kamilev (A Muslim).

On the very first day of the capture of Kerch, the Germans engaged themselves in wholesale pillage. From me the Fascists took 50 kilograms of white flour, two sacks of potatoes, six chickens and butter, and also my son's clothes. But that was only the beginning.

The next day the Germans shelled our settlements with mortars; then set the settlement afire from two sides, and began to drive all from their homes. The Fascists arrested myself and my 18-year-old son, Nitsha. We were all herded in a ravine. Then the women and children were let go "till tomorrow". The rest of us, including lads of 12 years, the Germans took to Kamyshburun and thence to Kerch. In Kerch we were herded in the Gestapo courtyard. There a German came over and told us in Russian: "You will go to camp and anyone who tries to escape will be shot".

After that we were taken to jail. On the street, before getting there, we were searched, and our money, penknives, valuables, belts were taken from us. Then we were put in a cell where there were 62 of us.

Next morning at 7 o'clock, 10 persons and then 20 others were taken from our cell. My son and I were in the latter group. The Fascists put us in a motor lorry and ordered us to keep our heads down, threatening to shoot anyone who raised his head or looked around. We were watched by two policemen with tommy-guns atilt. When we got beyond the aerodrome the driver stopped the lorry, and we saw Germans shooting people near a ditch. We were told to alight from the lorry and, in groups of 10, we were driven to the ditch. My son and I were among the first 10. We stood facing the ditch, and the Germans prepared to shoot us from behind. My son turned around and shouted: "Why do you shoot the civilian population?" But the shots rang out, and my son dropped into the ditch. Thinking that he was killed, I leapt after him. Immediately, dead bodies began dropping on me.

At about 3 p.m. a lad of about 11 years rose in the ditch and shouted: "Anyone who is alive may get up; the Germans have gone!" I was afraid to rise because I thought the lad was shouting at policemen's orders. But the lad shouted again. This time my son responded. He rose and asked, "Papa, are you alive?"...... I could not say anything, but merely nodded. My son and that lad pulled me out from the heap of corpses. There were some more persons alive. They cried: HELP. Some were wounded. All the time, while I lay beneath dead bodies, I heard women and children crying. That was because after they got through with us, Germans shot at old women and children. Eight of us got out of the ditch. We were smeared with blood. Our clothes and boots were sprinked with the blood of the slain.

We divided into groups. I with my son and nephew, Alsiman Alimov, went to the village Tatarsky Chursbash where we spent the night.

The accursed German parasites shot about 400 men of our settlement alone. I will never forget the outrages and the torments inflicted on us by the German Fascist cannibals.

My son is now in the Red Army. He will take revenge on the Fascist parasites and repay them for everything, for our killed kinsmen and neighbours, for the slain Kerch people and for all they perpetrated against us.

INDIA'S FRONT-LINE SAILORS.

R. I. N.'S GOOD WORK IN SICILIAN OPERATIONS.

(*Illustrated Weekly of India*).

The splendid part played by the Royal Indian Navy in many theatres of war was recognised when His Majesty the King paid a special visit to *H. M. I. S. Godavari* during his recent inspection of the Home Fleet. A great honour was conferred on this ship, and through it on the whole of the R. I. N., by the detailing of the Godavari to lead the battle-fleet out on manouevres. A very important part in the Sicilian operations was played by the Royal Indian Navy ;

At the outset of the campaign H. M. I. Ships had the proud privilege of helping to escort the Eighth army across to Sicily, and of protecting it against air and sea attack during the critical period of disembarkation. Having seen troops and supplies safely ashore, they took part in escorting the transports back out of the danger zone.

Since then, they have continued to render good service by joining with warships of other navies in shepherding more large convoys to Sicilian ports. In a recent despatch an R. I. N. observer described how one of the Indian warships went into action against hostile aircraft attempting to bomb vessels in a Sicilian harbour. The attack was made by the light of the waning moon, and the Indian Naval gun crews fired salvoes totalling several hundred rounds from four o'clock until dawn broke.

Officers and men are in excellent fettle, combining first-rate experience with more and bigger blows against the enemy. They are as keen as mustard, and ask for nothing better than to be allowed to continue the good work in which they are engaged.

THE BATTLE OF TAIHANGSHAN.

(*Far East News Letter*).

The Japanese have indulged in a great deal of propaganda in regard to the alleged "surrender" of General Pang Ping-hsun. They stated, among other things, that he had gone over to the peace camp with his whole army. The official Chinese account declares that General Pang was actually captured when incapacitated by a serious fall, and that most of the troops broke through the Japanese cordon.

THE Taihangshan country is barren and harsh, and grows little food. In fact the main worry in the last five and a half years was not the Japanese but food. The severe drought in Hopei and Honan last year aggravated the situation. Food shortage, according to General Ma Fah-wu, the new commander of the 40th Army and acting Governer of Hopei in succession to General Pang, was more than anything else responsible for the unfavourable turn of events in the last Taihang battle.

The enemy began to attack at the end of April. For ten days the defenders held their positions in face of combined Japanese ground and air attacks. After ten days of severe fighting, General Pang decided to break through the Japanese cordon and transfer his forces to the enemy rear for mobile fighting.

The "evacuation" was handicapped by the large number of civilians and officials (staff of the Hopei Provincial Government) attached to General Pang's headquarters. Japanese reconnaissance planes circled overhead all the time. "In fact", General Ma said, "We saw more of Japanese then we saw of the sun". Movement was only possible during the night. And with such long processions finding their way over mountain paths, the average going was only about five miles a night.

Food shortage was again the worst worry of the Chinese. The lack of water was another threat. Finally, the Chinese were forced to kill horses and donkeys of the army for food. Some times animals killed by Japanese bombs were cut to pieces and roasted for meals.

A sharp engagement was fought at Tunghsuanlao, when the entire guards battalion of the Hopei Provincial Government was lost in the break through. In the ensuing hot pursuit, General Pang led his men toward a high peak, seeking shelter from the heavy enemy fire.

Unfortunately, however, they lost their way. The night was dark, the slope steep. Keeping contact by hand clasp, the men began to descend again, when they were stopped by rising cliffs. One mis-step on the narrow mountain path resulted in an avalanche of men.

General Pang is known as the "Lame General" as one of his legs is crippled as a result of an old wound. The heavy fall sustained this time made it impossible for him to continue his hike. Therefore, his guards found a mountain cave on a cliff, tied their leggings into a rope, and lifted the general, together with his second son and an aide to the cave. His last order for his men was "to forget his own safety, but to continue the fight", and treasure the good name of the army which had already established a meritorious record during the six years of war.

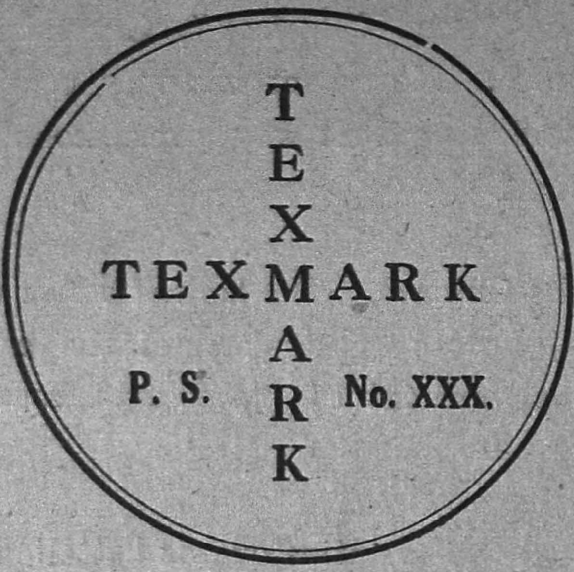
General Ma and his men were able finally to break through the Japanese cordon. And once behind the Japanese back, they struck at the enemy rear. In two weeks the Japanese columns were one by one driven back by the Chinese units transferred out of the besieged Taihang Mountain area. But the old general was found by the Japanese and made a prisioner of war.

The fact that the Japanese had to launch a second campaign against the Taihang Mountain defenders barely two months after their "successful conclusion" of the April—May campaign is a tribute to to the brave, bitter, and good fight put up by Chinese there.

(A)

MARKINGS TO BE OBSERVED BY MANUFACTURERS UNDER COTTON CLOTH AND YARN (CONTROL) ORDER, 1943.

1. **COTTON CLOTH MARKING**:—(*a*) At a distance not exceeding 1 yard from each end of a piece or uncut unit, every manufacturer shall impress or stamp the mark illustrated below.



(*b*) The over-all diameter of the mark shall not be less than 1½″.

(*c*) The figures of the mark shall not be less than ¼″ in height, and the letters not less than ⅛″ in height.

(*d*) Within the mark, and in the position shown at **XXX** in the above diagram, the manufacturer's distinguishing number shall be stamped.

(*e*) The month and year of packing shall also be stamped or impressed, in letters or figures not less than ½″ in height, immediately below the mark.

2. **COTTON YARN MARKING**:—(*a*) A paper label reproducing the mark described in clause 2, but having a diameter of not less than 4″ shall be inserted by the manufacturer in the centre of every bundle of yarn packed.

(*b*) Letters and figures of the label shall not be less than ½″ in height.

(*c*) Within the mark and in the position, shown at **XXX** in the diagram in clause 2, the manufacturer's distinguishing number shall be reproduced.

(*d*) The month and year of packing shall be stamped or impressed on the label, in letters and figures not less than ½″ in length, immediately below the mark illustrated in clause 2.

(B)

CEILING PRICES.

No.	Description of Cloth.	Dimensions.			Counts of Yarn.				Ex-Mill Ceiling Prices per piece (or per lb where stated).
		Width.	Length.	Weight.	Warp.	Weft.	Reed.	Picks.	
		Ins.	Yds.	lb					Rs. A. P.
1	Bleached Mulmul ...	43	20	...	40s	50s	52	44	12—7—0 per piece.
2	Grey Longcloth ...	43	38	...	30s	40s	64	64	27—4—9 ,,
3	Grey Leopard Cloth ...	43	38	11½	20s	22s	48	48	25—5—6 ,, (or Rs. 2-3-0 per lb)
4	Grey Dhotie ...	44	10	...	70s	90s	64	56	7—12—9 per piece.
5	Bleached Longcloth ...	33	40	...	20s	30s	56	48	21—7—3 ,,
6	Coloured Poplin ...	29	20	...	40s	40s	80	48	12-10—9 ,,
7	Bleached Nekshi Dhotie	46	8	...	70s	90s	64	52	6—7—3 ,,
8	Coloured Saree ...	42	5	...	20s	30s	40	32	3—2—9 ,,
9	Bleached Mulmul ...	48	20	...	32s	36s	64	44	13—2—6 ,,
10	Grey Drill ...	27	40	14¾	12s	10s	75	42	24—6—0 ,, (or Rs. 1-10-9 per lb)
11	Grey Longcloth (Markin) and other dimensions.	43	38	11	22s	22s	48	44	24—6—0 per piece (or Rs. 2-3-0 per lb)
12	Sateen	44/45	22½	8	14s	14s	40	36	14—10—0 per piece.

No.	Description of Yarn.			Ex-Mill Ceiling price per bundle of 10lb
				Rs. A. P.
1	10s Market	...	...	13–10—6
2	20s ,,	...	...	17—8—9
3	30s ,,	...	...	21—7—3
4	40s ,, (Indian) ...		...	25—5—6

(Manufacturing details are given for the information of manufacturers).

N. B.—These prices are for the best selling quality of each type, and are applicable only to goods sold in India for internal consumption.

WHAT ARE YOUR POST-WAR AIMS?

After the war the shops will once again be full of goods at reasonable prices. Those who have spent extravagantly in wartime will regret it, because war-time purchases are *plain bad value for money*. To fulfil your private post-war plans you should start saving NOW. Cut out all but essential expenditure. Save for the day when low prices will return.

SAVE FOR THE FUTURE.

Don't give your money to the profiteers! Keep it safely until after the war by investing in a Co-operative Society, by taking out insurance, by opening a Bank Savings Account, an account with the Post Office Savings Bank, or best of all, by investing in Government Loans and Savings Certificates. Don't put your money into gold, silver, jewellery or goods the present high prices of which will fall as Victory approaches.

SAVE A RUPEE A DAY.

Revive the money-box of your childhood! Save a rupee each day, or more if you can. Then regularly convert your cash savings into any of the safe interest-bearing investments listed above.

NOTE.

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c/o No. 6, ADVANCE BASE P. O.

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THE SECRETARY,
National War Front Bureau,
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PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU.

PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLXII (*Batch 2*).

6- 9-43	Tiruvarangulam	... 7.00 p.m.
,,	Vamban	... 7.30 ,,
7- 9-43	Malaiyur	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Karambakkudi	... 7.30 ,,
8- 9-43	C. S. M. High School	... 10.00 a.m.
,,	Rani's High School	... 10.45 ,,
,,	College A English	... 10.45 ,,
8- 9-43	College B Tamil	... 10.45 a.m.
,,	Ramachandrapuram	... 7.00 p.m.
,,	Rayavaram	... 7.30 ,,
9- 9-43	Viralimalai	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Poruvai	... 7.30 ,,
10- 9-43	Valaramanikkam.	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Embal	... 7.30 ,,

LECTURE CLXIII. (*Batch 1*).

11- 9-43	Municipal Office	... 6.00 p.m.
12- 9-43	Nirpalani	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Avur	... 7.30 ,,
13- 9-43	Karaiyur	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Idaiyattur	... 7.30 ,,
14- 9-43	Vadavalam	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Sammattividuthi	... 7.30 ,,
15- 9-43	C. S. M. High School	... 10.00 a.m.
,,	Rani's High School	... 10.45 ,,
15- 9-43	College A English	... 10.45 a.m.
,,	College B Tamil	... 10:45 ,,
,,	Nartamalai	... 7.00 p.m.
,,	Uppiliakkudi	... 7.30 ,,
16- 9-43	Andakkulam	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Killanur	... 7.30 ,,
17- 9-43	Kodumbalur	... 7.00 ,,
,,	Viralur	... 7.30 ,,

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

4— 9—43	Vettamviduthi.
5— 9—43	Embal.
6— 9—43	Kiranur.
7— 9—43	Kudumiyamalai.
8— 9—43	Rayavaram.
9— 9—43	Kulipirai.
10— 9—43	Pudukkottai.
11— 9—43	Ponnamaravathi.
12— 9—43	Kodumbalur.
13— 9—43	Viralimalai.
14— 9—43	Vadakadu.
15— 9—43	Kilanilai-Puduppatti.
16— 9—43	Alangudi.
17— 9—43	Pudukkottai.

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